



# News Release

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## **U.S. Labor Department's MSHA Issuing New Mine Rescue and Safety Training Grants *Training Grants Total More than \$7.9 Million in Fiscal Year 2007***

**ARLINGTON, Va.**—The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) today announced the availability of more than \$7.9 million in health and safety training grants being issued by MSHA in fiscal year 2007.

"These grants are part of MSHA's ongoing commitment to advance miner safety and health through funding training programs," said Richard E. Stickler, assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health.

Grantees will use the funds to provide federally mandated training to miners. The grants cover training and retraining of miners working at surface and underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines, including miners engaged in shell dredging or employed at surface stone and sand and gravel mining operations.

The monetary amount of the grants MSHA is awarding in fiscal year 2007 is the same level as the previous fiscal year, because the federal government currently is operating under a continuing budget resolution from Congress.

Training grant funds will be awarded to every state, except Hawaii, and to the Navajo Nation and Puerto Rico. States apply for the grants, which are administered by state mine inspectors' offices, state departments of labor or state-supported colleges and universities. Each recipient tailors the program to its state miners' individual needs and provides technical assistance. The grants will be given to the states upon receipt and approval of their applications.

The state grant program was authorized by the Coal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1969. States first received funding in 1971 to provide health and safety training to miners.

MSHA's primary mission as a federal agency is to help ensure worker safety and health in the nation's mines.

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## Fiscal Year 2007 Mine Rescue and Safety Training Grants

Alabama	\$182,669
Alaska	\$42,974
Arizona	\$273,314
Arkansas	\$94,504
California	\$322,149
Colorado	\$200,172
Connecticut	\$41,996
Delaware	\$3,720
Florida	\$155,134
Georgia	\$183,462
Idaho	\$88,074
Illinois	\$209,250
Indiana	\$177,442
Iowa	\$108,578
Kansas	\$76,706
Kentucky	\$597,131
Louisiana	\$76,476
Maine	\$50,202
Maryland	\$52,702
Massachusetts	\$62,459
Michigan	\$204,990
Minnesota	\$260,538
Mississippi	\$57,948
Missouri	\$192,835
Montana	\$120,373
Navajo Nation	\$25,534
Nebraska	\$63,382
Nevada	\$220,704
New Hampshire	\$36,909
New Jersey	\$47,527
New Mexico	\$137,983
New York	\$246,292
North Carolina	\$145,685
North Dakota	\$55,696
Ohio	\$250,076
Oklahoma	\$97,646
Oregon	\$98,945
Pennsylvania	\$491,564
Puerto Rico	\$50,648
Rhode Island	\$8,927
South Carolina	\$62,630
South Dakota	\$54,487
Tennessee	\$132,131
Texas	\$397,014
Utah	\$163,657
Vermont	\$67,055
Virginia	\$253,990
Washington	\$140,068
West Virginia	\$535,860
Wisconsin	\$175,961
Wyoming	\$176,831
Total	\$7,973,000